

NUTRITION SERVICES DIVISION MANAGEMENT BULLETIN		No. 00-119
TO:	All Sponsors of National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs County Superintendents of Schools Diocesan Superintendents of Schools	ISSUE DATE: October 2000
ATTENTION:	Food Services Directors	
SUBJECT:	School Breakfast Program Grants	
REFERENCE:	California Education Code Section 49550.3	

**CALIFORNIA STATE SCHOOL
BREAKFAST PROGRAM
START-UP/EXPANSION GRANTS**

APPLICATION DEADLINE:
NOVEMBER 15, 2000

This Management Bulletin is to inform you of changes in the California School Breakfast Program (SBP) grants as a result of recent amendments to California Education Section 49550.3 (School Breakfast Program).

BACKGROUND

California's SBP grants were first authorized in 1991, when Section 49550.3 was added to the California Education Code. This section expressed the Legislature's intention that the SBP should "be made available in all schools where it is needed to provide adequate nutrition for children in attendance" and acknowledged the fact that a hungry child cannot learn. In addition, the California Department of Education was authorized, subject to funding in the State Budget, to award grants of up to \$10,000 to schools wishing to implement the SBP. Requirements for the grants were: no SBP was currently in place; 40 percent of the school's students were approved for free or reduced price meals; and the school agreed to maintain the SBP for at least three years. The grants were authorized only for the nonrecurring expenses involved in initiating the SBP and could not be used to expand existing breakfast programs.

The grants were first funded in the 1993-94 State Budget. In 1995, the percentage of free and reduced price students required to qualify for a grant was lowered to 30 percent. In the past seven years, over \$6.6 million in grants has been awarded to help implement the SBP in 845 California schools.

2000-2001 SBP GRANTS

This year, the 2000-01 State Budget allocates \$1.8 million for grants for the SBP and Summer Food Service Program. Moreover, Senate Bill (SB) 1667 (Chapter 71, Statutes of 2000) has made important changes to the grants as they are authorized by Section 49550.3.

The amount available for individual grants has been increased to \$15,000 per school site; the percentage of free and reduced price enrollment required to qualify for a grant has been lowered from 30 percent to 20 percent; and grants are now authorized for expansion (increasing student participation at an existing SBP site) as well as start-up (implementing a program with no existing SBP).

GRANT CRITERIA

School districts and county offices of education may apply for up to \$15,000 on behalf of eligible schools meeting the following criteria stated in Education Code Section 49550.3:

- ?? 20 percent or more of the school's students are approved for free or reduced price meals; and
- ?? The school agrees to operate the program for three years after breakfast service has been initiated or expansion activities have been completed.

Schools receiving grants are expected to expend grant funds and implement the SBP no later than June 30, 2002.

ALLOWABLE AND NONALLOWABLE USE OF FUNDS

Grant funds may be used ONLY for NONRECURRING COSTS in two categories: equipment and outreach and/or implementation. Funds may be used for costs of SBP initiation or expansion, including the acquisition of equipment, training of staff in new capacities, outreach efforts to publicize new or expanded SBPs, minor alterations to accommodate new equipment, computer point-of-service systems for food service, and the purchase of vehicles for transporting food to schools.

To the extent that equipment will be used in more than one nutrition program, or will service more than one school site, the amount requested must be prorated according to its use for the SBP and for the specific site submitting the application. For example, if a \$750 microwave oven is to be used equally for lunch and breakfast, then only 50 percent, or \$375, may be paid for with grant funds. If a \$50,000 transport vehicle is to be used to transport food to five different sites, then only 20 percent, or \$10,000, may be paid for by one site's grant. In both cases, the applying agency would have to assume the remainder of the item's cost.

Grant funds **may not** be used for food, salaries and benefits of staff, computers (except computerized point-of-service systems), or capital outlay.

If you have schools that meet the above criteria, please consider taking advantage of these start-up and expansion grants by filling out and returning the attached grant application. By helping to ensure that students arrive in class well-nourished and ready to learn, the SBP can enhance the academic success of California's children.

If you have any questions, please contact Jim Lane, Program Analyst, Nutrition Program Management Unit, at (916) 323-2479, (800) 952-5609, or jlane@cde.ca.gov.

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